



What is hate?

Hate targets people based on:

- Racial or ethnic identity
- Religion or faith
- Gender identity or expression
- Sexual orientation
- Age
- Language
- Disability
- Any personal attribute

If you require this information in an alternate accessible format, please contact 311 or the Accessibility Coordinator at accessibility@durham.ca or 1-800-372-1102, extension 2009.

Scan the QR code to complete the **Together Against Hate Durham** Community Feedback Survey



How to recognize hate incidents using the five Ws

Considering these five questions can assist in determining if an incident qualifies as a hate crime, even if all five factors aren't fully present.

Who?

Was the person or group targeted based on identity?

What?

Were slurs, symbols, or excessive violence used?

When?

Did it happen on a meaningful date? (e.g. religious or political)?

Where?

Did it happen at a location tied to identity? (e.g. place of worship, Pride event)

Why?

Is bias the only clear motive?

Learn more at
durham.ca/Anti-Hate



Recognizing hate

Everyone in Durham Region deserves to feel safe—no matter their identity. But hate incidents are rising, affecting individuals, communities, and society.



Canadian
Race Relations
Foundation

Where does Hate come from?

Hate is not something we are born with, hate is learned. Below are some reasons people contribute to hate.

- **Fear:** Hate often stems from fear of the unfamiliar or perceived threats.
- **Stress:** people may direct frustration or powerlessness toward scapegoated groups
- **Us versus them thinking:** Differences in race, gender, or religion are used to justify superiority and discrimination.
- **Personal experience:** Past injustices or betrayal can fuel negative beliefs about a group.
- **Learned behaviour:** Hate can be passed down through family, media, and culture—especially when witnessed in childhood.
- **Historical beliefs:** Power imbalances rooted in history can be reinforced through systems and documentation.

Additional systemic and societal contributors include:

- **Colonialism:** Ongoing dispossession and denial of Indigenous sovereignty.
- **Anti-black racism:** Deeply rooted in Canada's history of enslavement and segregation.
- **Prejudice:** Intolerance toward people who are different, especially based on identity, beliefs, or characteristics.
- **Systemic oppression:** A global and local system that protects some while exposing others to harm.
- **Economic injustice and scapegoating:** Real frustrations that are redirected toward marginalized groups, like immigrants, instead of the systems causing harm.



Types of hate:

- **Hate-motivated crime:** A criminal act driven by bias or prejudice.
- **Hate/bias incident:** Hostile or discriminatory behaviour not classified as a crime.
- **Hate propaganda:** Written, Verbal, or digital content promoting hate or genocide. harm.



Impacts of hate:

Individuals:

- Trauma, isolation, withdrawal, and pressure to hide identity

Communities:

- Eroded trust, fear, exclusion, vulnerability

Society:

- Division, loss of diverse contributions, increased discrimination